

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated September 24, 2003. Claims 1, 4 to 7, 9 and 10 are presented for examination, of which Claims 1, 7, 9 and 10 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4 to 7, 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 5,182,655 (Motoyanagi). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention relates to battery powered electrical equipment with power saving operation. One aspect of the present invention lies in the feature of a plurality of power saving modes. Each one of the plurality of power saving modes is arranged for saving power consumption. The present invention derives the remaining capacity of a battery and selects a power saving mode. Based on the remaining battery capacity and the selected power saving mode, the remaining operation time is calculated and displayed on a screen along with the selected power saving mode. In this way, the operator of the equipment can easily understand how long the battery can supply power if the equipment operates in the current power saving mode. Also, the feature of a plurality of power saving modes adds increased control and flexibility with respect to remaining operation time.

With specific reference to the claims, independent Claim 1 recites an electric equipment having a plurality of power saving modes, wherein each power saving mode is arranged for saving power consumption. The electric equipment further comprises deriving means for deriving a remaining capacity of a battery, selecting means for selecting

one of the plurality of power saving modes, calculating means for calculating a remaining operating time from data derived by the deriving means and the one of the plurality of power saving modes selected by the selecting means, and display means for displaying both the power saving mode selected by the selecting means and the remaining operating time calculated by the calculating means.

Independent Claim 7 is a method claim that corresponds generally to independent Claim 1.

Independent Claim 9 recites an electric equipment having a plurality of power saving modes, wherein each power saving mode is arranged for saving power consumption. The electric equipment further comprises deriving means for deriving a remaining capacity of a battery, selecting means for selecting one of the plurality of power saving modes, calculating means for calculating a remaining operating time from data derived by the deriving means and the one of the plurality of power saving modes selected by the selecting means, display means for displaying both the power saving mode selected by the selecting means and the remaining operating time calculated by the calculating means, and control means for controlling a brightness of display in response to the power saving mode selected by the selecting means.

Independent Claim 10 is a method claim that corresponds generally to independent Claim 9.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or suggest the features of independent Claims 1, 7, 9 and 10, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or suggest at least the feature of a plurality of power saving modes, wherein each power saving mode is arranged for saving power consumption.

Motoyanagi relates to a facsimile apparatus having a rechargeable battery. Motoyanagi teaches that the facsimile apparatus can operate in a plurality of operational modes. For example, in transmission mode, image data on a document read by reader 14 is encoded by image signal processor 4, modulated by modem 3 and sent through line controller 2 to telephone line 1 (column 4, lines 5-8). In normal reception mode, data on telephone line 1 is input through line controller 2 to modem 3 where data is demodulated and input to image signal processor 4, which demodulates the received data and delivers the resulting data to recorder 5 (column 4, lines 9-14). In memory reception mode, however, the encoded data input to image signal processor 4 is temporarily stored in image memory 6 (column 4, lines 15-17).

Motoyanagi also teaches that a battery electric charge quantity monitor 9 reads data on the time for which the apparatus can be used and the number of documents transmittable and receivable in each of the operation modes based on the quantity of charge in battery 8. The battery electric charge quantity monitor then displays this data on display 13a through controller 12 (column 4, lines 23-37). Motoyanagi further teaches that an operator can choose the memory reception mode if the number of documents to be received is large in relation to the remaining receivable time (column 5, lines 1-5).

The Office Action takes the position that the memory reception mode of Motoyanagi corresponds to one of a plurality of power saving modes. However, even if Motoyanagi's memory reception mode can be correctly characterized as a power saving mode arranged for saving power consumption, Motoyanagi only discloses one such mode, and not a plurality of power saving modes. Motoyanagi makes no suggestion that the transmission mode or the normal reception mode are arranged for saving power

consumption. Rather, these modes are arranged to perform different operational aspects of Motoyanagi's fax apparatus.

As such, Motoyanagi is not seen to disclose or suggest the feature of a plurality of power saving modes, wherein each power saving mode is arranged for saving power consumption.

Accordingly, based on the foregoing, independent Claims 1, 7, 9 and 10 are believed to be allowable.

The other claims in the application are each dependent from the independent claims and are believed to be allowable over the applied references for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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